

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

ORDER RE: POSTPONEMENT OF JURY TRIALS IN KOOTENAI COUNTY FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 9, 2021	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER H21-KOO.2
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Rich Christensen, Administrative District Judge of the First Judicial District hereby finds and Orders as follows:

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2021 the Idaho Supreme Court issued an “EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING COURT SERVICES”. Said Order contained the following requirements and prohibitions:

7. Weekly COVID-19 Incidence Rate Jury Trial Postponements:

Jury proceedings, including jury trials and grand jury proceedings, may commence anytime during a calendar week unless the Administrative District Judge has determined that the County in which the prospective juror has been summoned to attend court has a seven-day moving average incidence rate of confirmed or presumed cases of COVID-19 of 25.0 or greater per 100,000 population as reflected on the Cases by County page of the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare’s COVID-19 Data Dashboard available at www.coronavirus.idaho.gov

8. Other Postponements Authorized by Administrative District

Judge: Notwithstanding the conditions set forth in paragraph 7, an Administrative District Judge may, in the exercise of discretion, enter an order prohibiting commencement of jury trial or the impanelment of a grand jury in a county where there are circumstances beyond the acceptable incidence rates which pose a substantial increase in the health or safety risks to participants, Such an order shall be in writing and contain the factual basis for the determination and shall upon entry be submitted by email to the Administrative Office of the Courts.

and;

WHEREAS, the seven-day moving average incidence rate of confirmed or presumed cases of COVID-19 in for the last several days has been steadily rising as follows:

July 30 – 29.3
July 31 – 30.6
August 1 - 35.3

August 2 - 37.6
August 3 - 39.9
August 4 - 40.4

and;


WHEREAS, the Administrative District Judge has consulted, or attempted to consult, with those district and magistrate judges that are scheduled for jury trials the week of August 9, 2021 and discuss such safety and health concerns of bringing prospective jurors to the Courthouse.

NOW THEREFORE, there is a health and safety risk to calling in large numbers of prospective jurors wherein such individuals, along with court staff, attorneys and litigants cannot be safely socially distanced.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

Jury Trials in Kootenai County are suspended and postponed for the week of August 9, 2021

IT IS SO ORDERED this 5th day of August, 2021


Rich Christensen
Administrative District Judge
First Judicial District